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Westphal.7276
Serial Number 10/647,912

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Helmut Thoma

GROUP: 3682

SERIAL NO: 10/647,912

EXAMINER: Unknown

FILED: August 25, 2003

FOR: GEAR ARRANGEMENT

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Preliminary to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-10 and add claims 11-20 as follows:

1.(Currently Amended) A gear arrangement, comprising a first gear ~~(1)~~made of a first material and a second gear ~~(2)~~made of a second material wherein the first and second gears are adjacent on a common shaft ~~(4)~~and the elasticity of the first gear ~~(1)~~is chosen to be greater than that of the second gear ~~(2)~~while the strength of the second gear ~~(2)~~is chosen to be greater than that of the first gear ~~(1)~~, wherein the first gear ~~(1)~~and the second gear ~~(2)~~sit on the shaft.

2. (Currently Amended) The gear arrangement of claim 1, comprising a third gear ~~(3)~~made of the same material as the first gear ~~(1)~~and that sits loosely on the common shaft, on the side of the first gear ~~(1)~~that is still free.